THE UNRESTRICTED CHRIST.

Col.1:19 For it was the good pleasure of the Father that in Him should all the fulness dwell.

INTRO. The contention of the two college students- that we can accept the teachings of Jesus and walk in his ways without worshipping Him, that had he not lived we would have discovered his truth just the same.

Paul's attitude towards the Christ, recognizing that in Him was expressed the very fulness of God. To Paul X was preeminent abova all other men and unique in his position and power.

I. Jesus not subject to raee restriction.

Weinstock's"Jesus the Jew."

True, Jesus came of a people who religiously and patriotically kept themselves aloof from all other peoples, whose very characteristics even to this day make them easily distingusihable from all others.

But Jesus cannot be limited to the Jew in him.

When Tissot, the French painter, sought to represent the life of Jesus in pictures, he went to Palestine for his types. The most typical Jews he could find well represented the Pharisees, scribes and others, but when it came to choosing one such to represent the Christ, Tissot just could not do it. Tissot was compelled to accept the apostle Paul's conception ~~of St. Paul~~ that in Jesus there ~~was~~ is neither Greek nor Jew, barbarian, bond or free.

In Jesus there is no race restriction- his spirit and attitude has ever been cosmopolitan and catholic.

Jesus is an international Christ whose vision and attitude and spirit must be obeyed bfore the nations of thw world can espablish universal peace. One of the students who spoke to me was a Japanese.

II. Jesus not subject to the age in which he lived.

All men, great and small, are subject to the age and time in which they live. This is one of the certain marks which differentiates men from one aother. Some of our great men have been more sibject to their ~~age~~ own age ~~more~~ than others, but no character in history is so unrestricted by the times in which he lived as was Jesus, or, I should say, as is Jesus, for he still lives.

Tho Jesus lived 2000 yrs. ago he is still modern. The mind of Jesus cannot be limited to any century. Pedagogues, phychologists, philosophers, scientists as well asecclesiastics are still following the Christ in their thinking. Jesus still leads the way.

III. Jesus was not restricted by any social rank. And how social standing still separates us from one aother! Not so with Jesus. Born of a peasant woman, yet the scion of a princely house. The humblest folk were his brothers, yet he stood unawed in the presence of princes and rulers, No social situalion curtails the Christ-he breaks thru every social barrier and unites the hearts of men whatever their rank may be. Rich & poor, high & low, meet on the same level when they come to X.

IV. Jesus was not restricted by personal temperament or habit.

Was he a dreamer or practical and matter-of fact? Was he a thinker or a man of action, a doer? The K.G. is X's dream for the world, compared with which all other dreams of men fade into insignificance, but Jesus was not merely a dreamer. The thots which Jesus crystalized are still the profoundest and the simplest of all the thots of men, but Jesus was more than a thinker. No man ever rendered the world a greater or more needful service than did Jesus, yet he was not merely a man of action.

3. Education is laying the emphasis upon making our knowledge a matter of personal experience, experimental knowledge. No man ever lived who in such large measure made his thot and belief a matter of personal experience as did Jesus. Jesus lived his thots, he practiced his beliefs. His teachings and his conduct were one and the same.

V. Jesus was not restricted by sex temperament. Each sex has its charactistic virtues and ideals. We look for strength and courage in men: we look for gracefulness and tenderness in women. We laugh at a man who is effeminite, we scorn a woman who has ceased to be womanly.

But we cant treat Jesus the same way. All that we look for as manly in men we find in him. But on the other hand, all that we find in the way of grace and tenderness in women we also find in Jesus. Such blending together of the two sex virtues makes Jesus Christ stand out alone among the world's great men.

Whenever the Church hasforgotten that Jesus is both masculine and feminine the church has suffered.

In theearly centures of the Xn era they made X out to be but a man, a stern judge of mankind, and what was the result? The church had to turn to the virgin Mary for the much needed feminie virtues, and there arose the worship of Mary.

Then later when the feminine characteristics of Jesus were emphasized and a pale and ascetic Christ was presented, men in large numbers deserted the church. Both the forcefulness & the gentleness of Jesus contribute to his marvelous personal influence

For this reason every home needs Jesus to keep its members in true relationship with one another, to make the love in them sweet and pure and unselfish.

Jesus in our homes and in our hearts and lives will solve all our problems and win all our battles, because not only is he unrestricted in the fulness of expression of his own persality, but he frees us from all limitation of ignorance and

4. prejudice and fear, all limitation of race, color, nationality and creed.

May we experience thru X what the apostle Paul did. Listen to his estimate of the X.

Read. Col. 1:3 – 2:10 – Moffat.

The man who took the steamer from a southern Atlantic coast up to N.Y.
crackers – cheese & dried herring
'What do you suppose it would cost to go in there & eat a real square meal?'

3) we realize a spiritual change of nature — pardon of sins; peace of conscience, sonship with God, immortal life — eternal glory!

In comparison ~~to~~ what has the world to offer? — Wealth takes wings — health breaks down, youth gives way to old age & fame loses its lustre, & victors of all sports soon are defeated. the chalice of human pleasure is soon drained, leaving but dregs.

III. A joyous buying.

1. When the pearler found the one of great price what did he do? — sold all that he had in exchange for the one!

Was it worth it? Yes, a 1000 times

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2. To find in J. C. the preciousness & the pricelessness of the K. G we must

4) Let everything go & forego all ~~everything~~ of whatever we hold of the world's competing things & claim the all of our heart's supreme affection.

"Lovest thou me more than these?"

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, & take up his cross & follow me".

J.C. is the superlative of our life or he is nothing — for me to Live is Christ!

Did the pearl seeker really sacrifice all he had in order to buy the pearl of great price?

He did'nt lose anything - he gained more! Not sacrifice but investment.

We don't lose anything when we give it all for X — we gain anythg

— A person of distinction lay dying when brot to him a medal of honor from his monarch, & taking it in his hands, he

5) said – "This is a mighty fine thing here in this country But I'm going to a country where it will be of no value to me!"

– It is related of the great Scotch Surgeon – Sir James Simpson, that a young man once asked him what he regarded as his greatest discovery – the scientist replied – "My greatest discovery is that I am a sinner and that Jesus is a great Saviour."

A skilled nurse in the Dufferin Hospital in India – sitting in porch reading High caste Hindu woman came up the steps – picture of Holman Hunt's standing outside the closed door fell from bk to porch. Hindu woman asked for the story.

Summer to winter
"You should not have your front door open – The hills are covered with snow & it is cold."
"I have seen the snow & I have felt the cold, but I thot that perhaps your Jesus might pass by & I wanted him to find the door ~~open~~ wide open!"